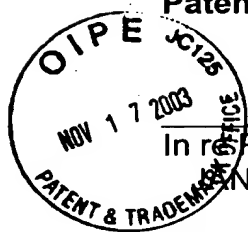


Patent Case No. IN01344

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Patent Application of:
NICE K. ALBRECHT

Application No.: 09/981,215

Group Art Unit: 1648

Filed: 10/16/2001

Examiner: Shanon A. Foley

For: RIBAVIRIN-PEGYLATED INTERFERC:
ALFA HCV COMBINATION THERAPY

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Schering-Plough Corp.
Patent Dept., K-6-1-1990
Kenilworth, NJ 07033

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure requirements of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed on the accompanying Form PTO-1449. Applicant has listed publication dates on the attached Form PTO-1449 based on information presently available to the undersigned. However, the listed publication dates should not be construed as an admission that the information was actually published on the date indicated.

Applicant reserves the right to establish the patentability of the claimed invention over any of the information provided herewith, and/or to prove that this information may not be prior art, and/or to prove that this information may not be enabling for the teachings purportedly offered.

This statement should not be construed as a representation that a search has been made, or that information more material to the examination of the present patent application does not exist. The Examiner is specifically requested not

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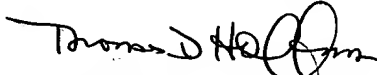
to rely solely on the material submitted herewith. It is further understood that the Examiner will consider information that had been cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in any prior application relied on under 35 U.S.C. § 120. 1138 OG 37, 38 (May 19, 1992).

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the U.S. filing date and before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits.

It is respectfully requested that the Examiner initial and return a copy of the enclosed Form PTO-1449, and to indicate in the official file wrapper of this patent application that the documents have been considered.

Respectfully submitted,

SCHERING-PLOUGH CORPORATION



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Attorney of Record for Applicant
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Date: November 12, 2003

Sheet 1 of 1

| | | |
|---|---|---------------------------------------|
| U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary) | ATTY. DOCKET NO.: IN01344 | APPLICATION NO.: 09/981,215 |
| | APPLICANT: JANICE K. ALBRECHT | |
| | FILING DATE: 10/16/2001 | GROUP: 1648 |

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| *EXAMINER INITIAL | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE |
|----------------------|--------------------|------|------|-------|---------------|-------------------------------|
| | AA | | | | | |
| | AB | | | | | |
| | AC | | | | | |
| | AD | | | | | |
| | AE | | | | | |

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

| | DOCUMENT NUMBER | DATE | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUB- CLASS | TRANSLATION | |
|--|--------------------|------|---------|-------|---------------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | YES | NO |
| | AF | | | | | | |
| | AG | | | | | | |
| | AH | | | | | | |
| | AI | | | | | | |
| | AJ | | | | | | |

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

| | |
|----|--|
| AK | Reichard, et al., "Randomized double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of interferon α -2b without ribavirin for chronic hepatitis C", The Lancet, 1998, Vol. 351: 83-87. |
| AL | Poynard, T., et al, "Randomized trial of interferon α 2b plus ribavirin for 48 weeks or for 24 weeks versus interferon α 2b plus placebo for 48 weeks for treatment of chronic infection with hepatitis C virus", The Lancet, 1998, Vol. 352: 1426-1432. |
| AM | McHutchinson, et al., "Interferon alfa-2b alone or in combination with ribavirin as initial treatment for chronic hepatitis C", N. Eng. J. Med., 1998, Vol. 339: 1485-1492. |
| AN | Davis, et al, "Interferon alfa-2b alone or in combination with ribavirin for the treatment of relapse of chronic hepatitis C", N. Engl. J. Med., 1998, Vol. 339: 1493-1499. |
| AO | Manns, et al., "Peg-interferon alfa-2b plus ribavirin compared with interferon alfa-2b plus ribavirin for initial treatment of chronic hepatitis C: a randomized trial", The Lancet, 2001, Vol. 358: 958-965. |
| AP | |

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| EXAMINER | DATE CONSIDERED |
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.